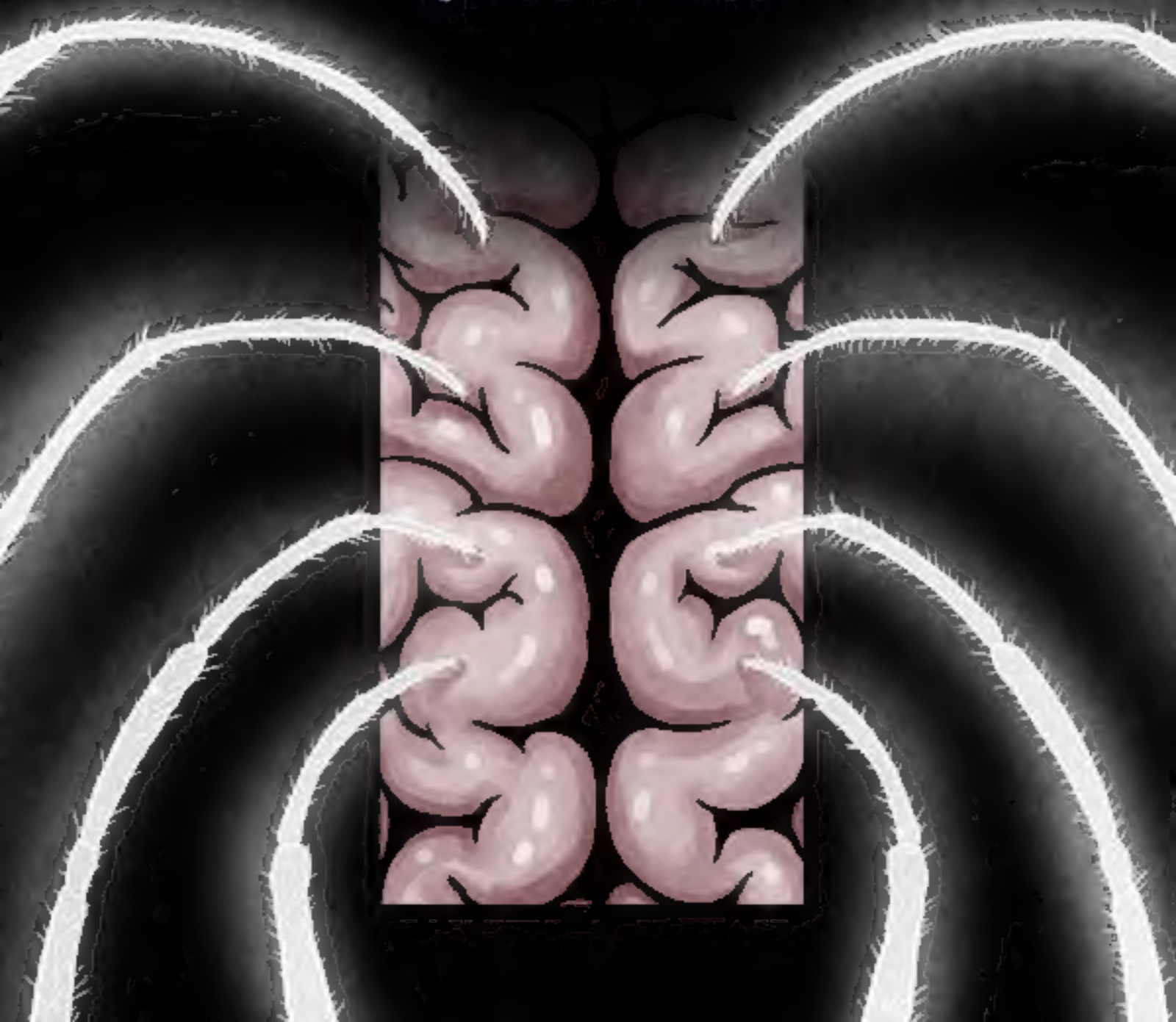
Gunnerkrigg Court

Chapter 98:

Spider Legs



what the hell?!
...
oh, you was there too, huh?
well, sucks to be you, mate.

AV
oh...
who are you?

what do you want?!
do you know zimmy?
n-no...
tsh...

what are you looking at?
nothing.
who are you?
jenny.

Kick
didn't think you'd be back.
why not?
I've been acting real crazy.
my friends won't hang out with me anymore.
that wasn't you.
part of it was.
well that part got you through it.

has anyone talked to you about what happened?
they told me about it, but they didn't explain.
the things I saw... how it felt to be in that place...
and zimmy herself?
I can't get her out of my head.
you were touched by something incredible.
your mind was altered. it's fascinating.
great.

HAHA
HA
hey, jen.
how'd it go last night?
yeah, fine. spoke to annie. she's kinda odd.
and I realised...
I'm in love with zimmy.
that part was obvious, luv.

I don't want to date her OR anything.
you don't?
no way. she needs to be left alone.
gamma is the right one for her.
I just... I dunno... I want her to be safe.
she goes through a lot, every day.
what does your zimmy look like, anyway?

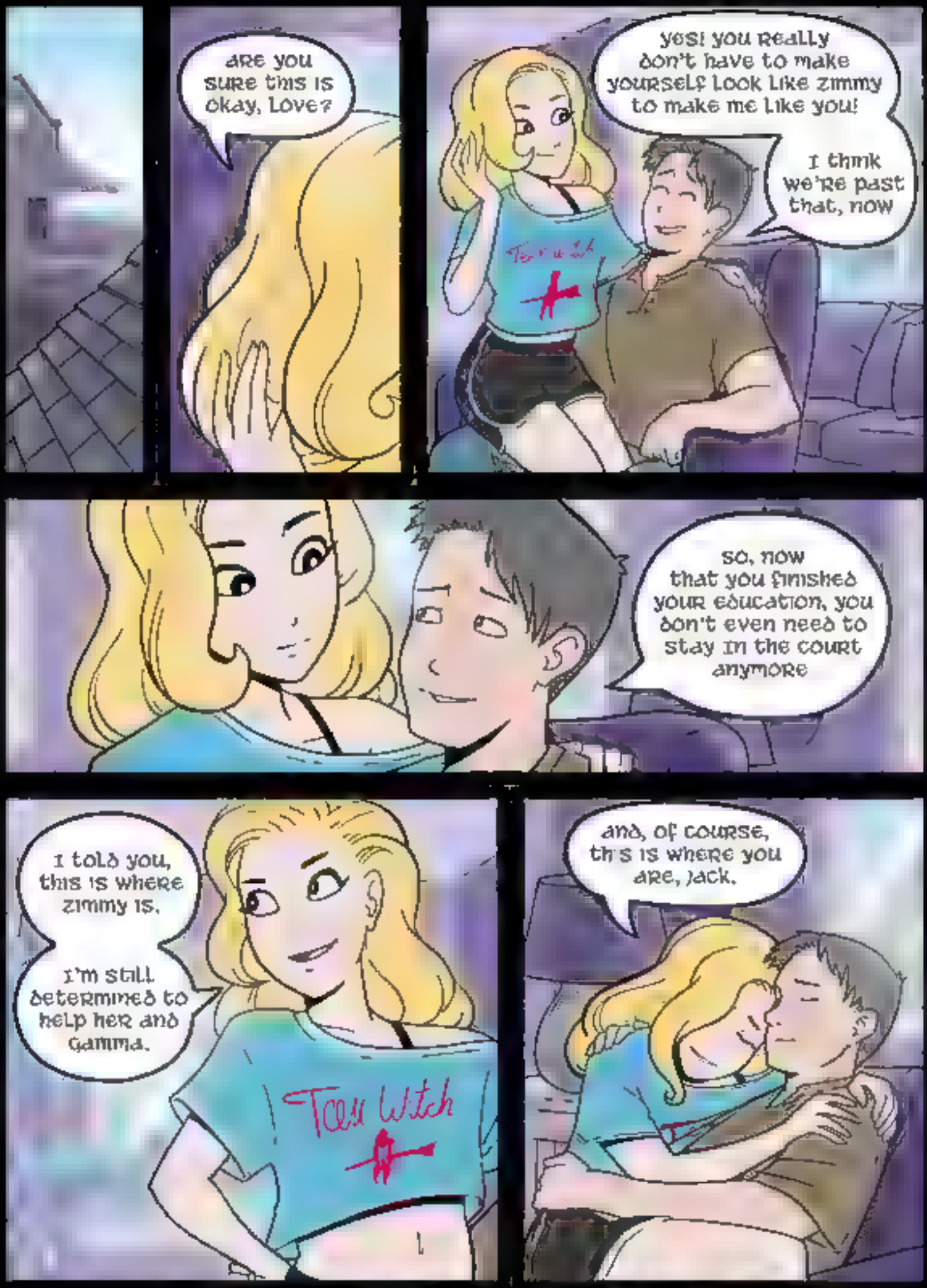
hey.
what do you think?
jen?!
haha! you look great!
you really don't need the red contacts, though.
phew. I could do without em', love.
I like you, jack.

you went through something that affected you deeply, and you pulled through
you didn't lose yourself, and you came out stronger because of it
I'm proud of you.
you've... helped me a lot these past months.
you stuck around when others haven't.
I like you too, Jen, but
I can't promise anything
I'm fine with that

It was incredible!
the power she has to alter reality like that!
It's something, isn't it?
and Gamma is just as you described!
I'm going to do my final thesis on them!

oh. . .
are you?
don't worry! it'll be non-interference, nothing will affect zimmy or gamma, hon.
on the contrary, I want to find a way to help them
that'd be great.
It's going to take a long time
but I think I can get the high priestesses on board.
and I'd love it if you help me along the way
we work well together
haha, you got it.

you're Jack, right?
the one who was controlled by the mind spiders?
that's me!
Jenny is sooo cool!
her work is groundbreaking!
she's going to pass with the highest grades in the coven!
yeah, she really is
I'm gonna ask if I can apprentice with her, too!
I want to do my final thesis based on her work!


are you sure this is okay, love?
yes! you really don't have to make yourself look like zimmy to make me like you!
I think we're past that, now
so, now that you finished your education, you don't even need to stay in the court anymore
I told you, this is where zimmy is.
I'm still determined to help her and gamma.
and, of course, th's is where you are, jack.

Is this. Is this Zimmy?
I think it is .. it feels like it.
did Carver do this?
no.. I don't know what annie wants with zimmy, but I don't think she'd cause something like this to happen...
not on purpose...
we need to maintain our network.

how is it?
all accounted for.
we know where zimmy is, and we're figuring out this ~
BWIP
jack!
BWIP

Jack?!
what just happened?
Jack.
zimmy's in trouble..

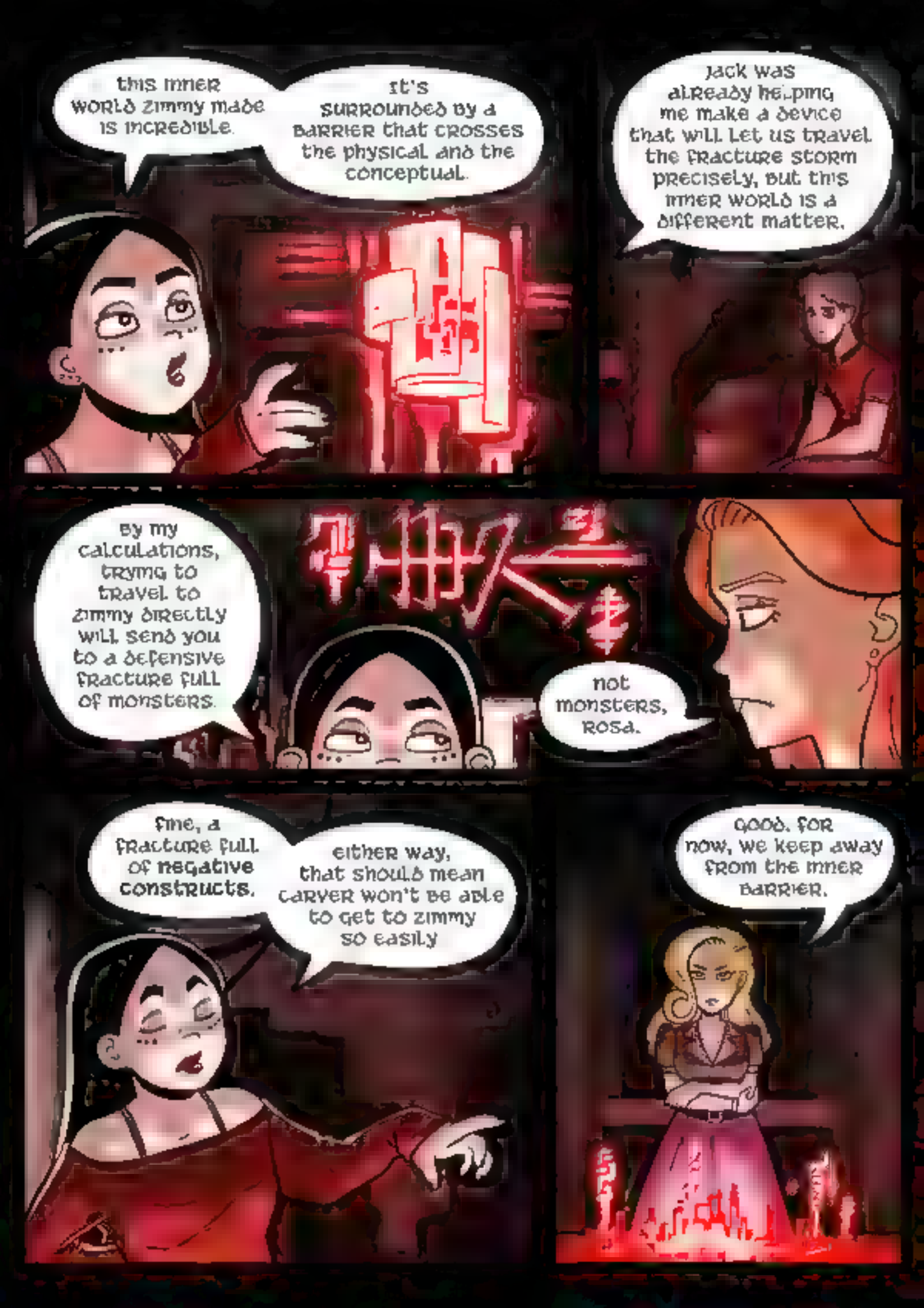
this woman knows something about zimmy?
yeah..
and you can't say what it is?
no I cant... I can't even tell you..
but we can't just observe anymore ..
we have to get involved.
I trust you, Jack.
what do you need?
we need to call the others

SORRY to call you away from your work, ladies, but we knew this was a possibility.
we know zimmy is here, in the center of this fractured storm we're living in.
and we know this was all caused by an intersection of zimmy's power and that of coyote.
this means annie carver is involved
LIFT
she's usually the center of attention when it comes to angering the etheric gods

carver is a tricky one.
she tried to use jack and me to find zimmy, possibly to deliver her to the court.
terrible!
how could she?!
not only that. but zimmy herself accused her of helping them
and claimed her friend, katerina donlan, was going to kill her.
using something called omega.
what's that?
we looked into it, but we're not sure.
a computer of some kind?

Ladies, our work 'til now has been observational.
a network around Zimmy and Gamma, keeping an eye on them.
even after the fracture storm, it held fast.
but now, we have to take steps to prevent Carver and her gang from getting to Zimmy.
this will likely alert Zimmy herself.
when she becomes aware of us, we need to make sure she knows we're on her side.
and that's why I brought you here

Zara, you can track who we need, mainly Carver and Donlan
It's thanks to you we know where Zimmy is.
Rosa, your work on wards and barriers tell us what we need about the borders of this fracture storm, and the inner world Zimmy created.
Noa, you're our muscle
Sylvie . Well, it's best if your work remains as theory for now, but you're here as backup
Let's hope you'll have nothing to do, my dear.
LIFT


this inner world zimmy made is incredible.
it's surrounded by a barrier that crosses the physical and the conceptual.
jack was already helping me make a device that will let us travel the fracture storm precisely, but this inner world is a different matter.
by my calculations, trying to travel to zimmy directly will send you to a defensive fracture full of monsters.
not monsters, rosa.
fine, a fracture full of negative constructs.
either way, that should mean carver won't be able to get to zimmy so easily
good. for now, we keep away from the inner barrier.

from what I can tell, carver is moving around the fracture storm, while donlan stays in this spot.
I noticed they can communicate in the ether, though. I didn't think they could do that.
no... that's new.
it just looks like carver's coordinating with friends around the court.
zara, can you track where her dad is? mr. carver?
mmm...
yep, he's over here, with some other people.
mr and mrs donlan and... someone i don't know.

Is that her?
I think so. I caught a glimpse of the SonLans, too.
Who is she?
She took Jack and told him something... about Zimmy.
It's why we're taking action.
you won't be able to travel there...
they're somehow outside and inside the fracture storm at the same time.
What did she say to you, Jack?

I can't say.
why not?
is it important?
too important.
If it were to get out...
zimmy will die.

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Called From Their Work